

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A steel material for hot press forming comprising a base steel material having ~~[[a zinc or zinc alloy plated]]~~ an alloyed molten zinc metal plating layer formed on ~~[[the]]~~ a surface of the base steel material, ~~[[the plated]]~~ a surface of the plating layer having ~~[[on its surface]]~~ a barrier layer thereon which prevents vaporization of zinc during heating, the base steel material having a carbon content of between 0.08 and 0.45 % by weight, and a silicon content of less than or equal to 0.05% by weight.

2. (original) A steel material for hot press forming as claimed in claim 1 wherein the barrier layer is an oxide layer based on an oxide of zinc.

3. (original) A steel material for hot press forming as claimed in claim 2 wherein the oxide layer has a weight of at least 10 mg/m² as Zn.

4. (original) A steel material for hot press forming as claimed in claim 1 wherein the barrier layer is a plated coating based on at least one metallic substance selected from the group consisting of Fe, Ni, Co, and alloys thereof.

5. (original) A steel material for hot press forming as claimed in claim 4 wherein the plated coating has a coating weight of 0.2 - 10 g/m².

6. (currently amended) A steel material for hot press forming as claimed in claim 1 wherein the ~~[[zinc or zinc alloy plated]]~~ alloyed molten zinc metal plating layer is a galvanealed layer.

7. (original) A steel material for hot press forming as claimed in claim 6 wherein the galvanealed layer has a Fe content of 5 - 80% and a coating weight of 10 -

90 g/m² as Zn.

8. (original) A steel material for hot press forming as claimed in claim 6 wherein the base steel material has a P content of at most 0.015%.

9. (canceled).

10. (canceled).

11. (currently amended) A steel material for hot press forming as claimed in claim [[10]] 1 wherein the base steel material contains one or both of Mn and Cr in an amount of 0.5 - 3.0% in total.

12. (currently amended) A steel material for hot press forming as claimed in claim [[10]] 1 wherein the base steel material contains 0.0001 - 0.004% of B.

13 – 29. (canceled).

30. (currently amended) A steel material for hot press forming as claimed in claim 2 wherein the [[zinc or zinc alloy plated]] alloyed molten zinc metal plating layer is a galvanealed layer.

31. (previously presented) A steel material for hot press forming as claimed in claim 30 wherein the galvanealed layer has a Fe content of 5 - 80% and a coating weight of 10 - 90 g/m² as Zn.

32. (previously presented) A steel material for hot press forming as claimed in claim 30 wherein the base steel material has a P content of at most 0.015%.

33-36. (canceled).